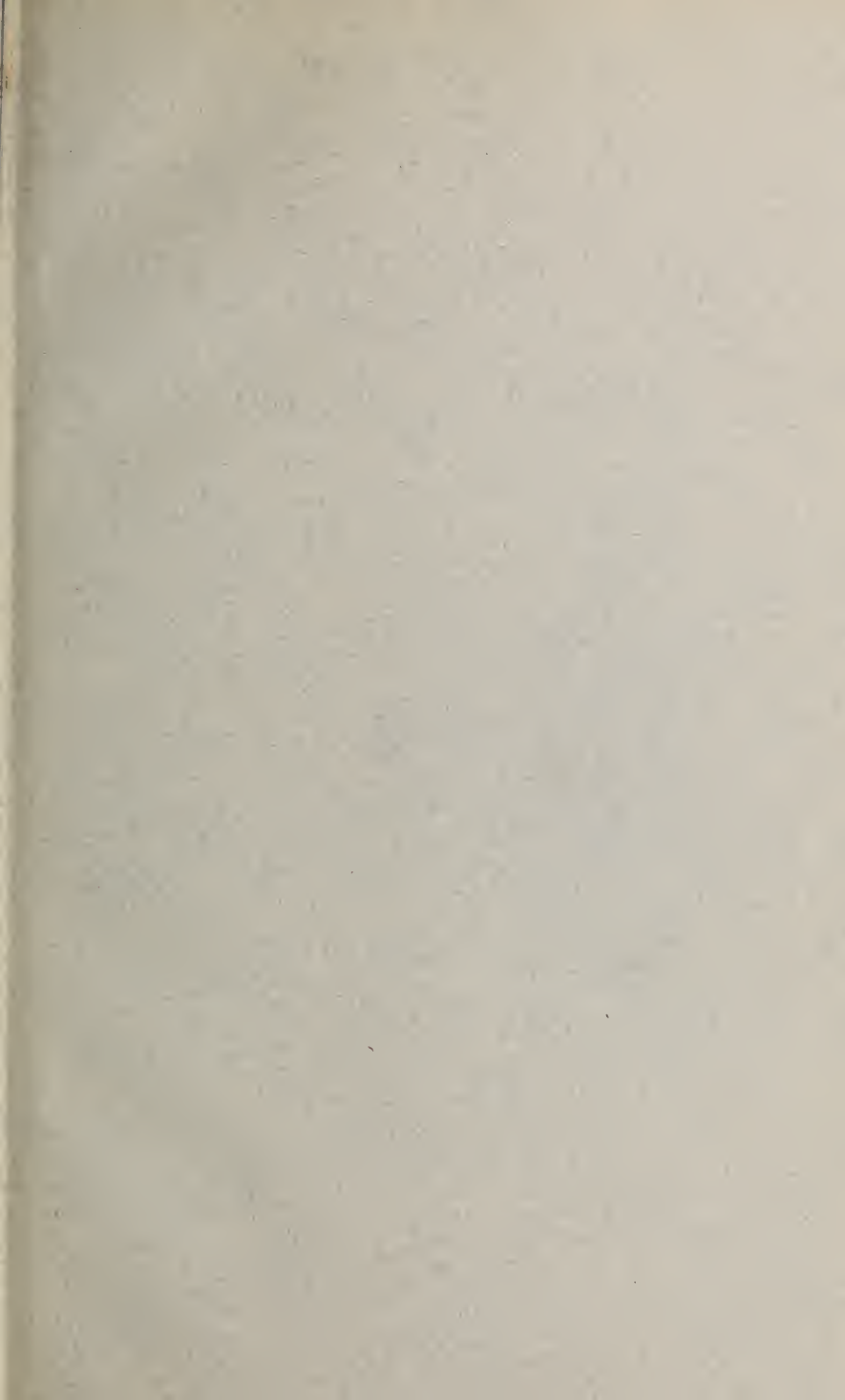


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# THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

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*For The African Repository.*

CAPE PALMAS, LIBERIA.

BY HON. JOHN H. B. LATROBE.

The story of the founding of the Maryland State Colonization Society's settlement at Cape Palmas, in the October number of the Repository, does less than justice to the writer, Dr. James Hall, who himself negotiated the purchase of the land from the natives, and was the first governor of the Colony. The following supplement to Dr. Hall's account, by another hand, may not be uninteresting

Cape Palmas is a promontory which, approached from the northwest, presents the appearance of three slightly marked eminences; that which is farthest from the sea being separated by a steep declivity from a level plain, beyond which, the land rises gradually towards the interior. On this eminence, and looking down upon the plain, was the native town, the residence of King Freeman. A river, called when a map of the purchase was made, "Hoffman river," emptied into the sea on the north side of the Cape and afforded a landing place near the plain. There was also an available landing place where the river washed the base of the Cape itself.

The first question that offered itself after the completion of the purchase, was the site of the settlement. Two sites presented themselves; one on the Cape; the other on the mainland beyond the plain already mentioned. Each had its advantages. If the latter were chosen, the emigrants could, at once, have their farm lots located and begin to cultivate them; while on the Cape, there was no room for agricultural improvement, and small town lots only could be awarded to the new comers.

Dr. Hall with great wisdom chose the Cape. A settlement on the mainland would be at the mercy of the natives, who might, at any time, cut it off from the landing place and starve it to submission to any terms they might choose to exact, if they had preferred



its plunder to its destruction. Upon the other hand, the settlement, if made, as it was upon the cape, where it was called Harper, would be comparatively independent. Access to the ocean would be open; and the artillery—consisting of one 6 pounder, on two wheels, and two 10 pounder gunnades or carronades, which were a part of the outfit in the *Ann*—if planted on the central eminence which commanded the native town, would give Dr. Hall an advantage which King Freeman fully appreciated afterwards.

Nor was it long before the wisdom of the selection was made apparent. At first, nothing could have been more friendly than the natives. A propensity to thieving, however, which seemed innate, became manifest in a little while.

On the 23rd of February, referring to instructions in regard to the protection of such settlements as he might make, Dr. Hall writes, "As to fortifications as means of defense, they are out of the question at present. We must depend upon management." On the 16th of August, he writes, "The natives robbed me of two casks of powder and many valuable articles when landing." This was after the return of the *Ann* from Monrovia with the families of the volunteers, and when the cargo was being discharged that had been taken on board in Baltimore. "On this occasion," the Doctor writes, "we were near having an engagement. The King and headmen secretly sanctioned the business." On the 24th April, by which time his views in regards to the importance of fortifications had changed evidently, he writes, "I am also building a kind of timber fort to be covered, and to answer as a shelter for the guns, and a guard house at night; eight or ten men will always sleep there, and as the site overlooks the native town, we have little to fear from a surprise or attack except by day, and then we shall be prepared for them." Again, in the same letter he says, "At present, clustered as we are on this little cape with a constant night guard, something is missing every night, and in many instances great boldness is manifested. They have slipped their hands through the waling of the houses and stripped bed-clothes from the sick. *As soon as we are strong enough*, I shall make the King responsible for all thefts committed by his people, and in case of thefts committed by natives from other towns, shall carry the palaver there and demand restitution. I traced some articles to Grahway the other day, and immediately went down and called a palaver, and not only procured those I went in quest of, but in the same house found four other valuable articles that had been stolen from the Colony."

Things were not improving when, on the 15th of May, Dr Hall writes, "that King Freeman having determined that there should be

no trading with any other tribe than his own, not only prohibited his people from supplying the Colony with provisions, but laid an embargo which prevented Doctor Hall from sending his boat to Rocktown, a native village further up the coast, for a supply of rice, upon which the people were absolutely dependent. "Thinking," writes Dr. Hall, "that I could coax them out of their unfair and illegal notions, as I had always done before, I mounted my donkey and rode down to the town where the headmen were all convened, and talked the matter over with them. They did not pretend to reason; but only said they would do as they pleased, right or wrong. I then stated fully our circumstances; that unless they permitted the Rocktown people to bring us rice, we must starve; that we were as willing to meet death one way as the other; as yet, we had never done them wrong or threatened violence, when they were sensible they deserved it; that they had now broken the contract but lately made, to allow free trade with all the tribes; that I now had but one word to say, which was, that if they persisted in their present course I would never meet them again to talk any palaver; and that, if they attempted by force to stop any trade coming to me, or interrupted any trade goods that I sent for rice, war would then begin; and it should not end while one American lived on the Cape, or until I had destroyed every town within gun-shot of our fort. This was totally unexpected by them, and produced a great deal of excitement, and the menaces were so violent that, being alone and much fearing a stab in my back, I thought it best to make my way home. I made all arrangements that night, expecting hot work on the morrow, when I sent my boat to Rocktown; but, when morning came, I received a message from the King and headmen through the interpreter, that they were convinced of their error and were sorry for the trouble they had given me. Since then they have been quiet, and I have been very formal in my intercourse. I told them that if they wished peace they could have it; but that I should always be ready, if they took a notion to trouble me, to let off my big guns at once in the town, without holding any palaver."

When it is stated, that from the day when he left America Dr. Hall was an invalid: that he had been almost carried from a sick bed on board the *Ann*; that he was at no time able to go about except when aided by crutches; and that his life at Cape Palmas was rarely that of a person in ordinary health even; and that the whole fighting force of the Colony did not exceed thirty men, we are better able to appreciate the personal bravery, the cool judgment, and the indomitable energy that gave him his ascendancy with the natives and made the attempt of the Maryland State Colonization Society to found a new Colony on the coast of Africa, a success. The wisdom of selecting

the Cape for the first settlement had thus been made apparent; and after the Rocktown palaver, Dr. Hall found less difficulty in carrying out the plan, already referred to, of making King Freeman responsible.

But while thefts were committed by the natives, a colonist was found with his pockets filled with cassava stolen from them, when the King, not unnaturally, called upon the "Gubnor" to apply to himself the law to which he had subjected the other. "When Africa man steal from America man," said King Freeman, "I pay. If America man steal from Africa man, you no pay." "But," replied Dr. Hall, "I have a law for catch thief, you make same law, you no pay." Whereupon the King said he too would have such law, and forthwith appointed two native justices and two native constables to detect and punish thieves, "after America fashion." Subsequently there came to America "The King's mouth", an official so called, named Simleh Ballah, who, upon being presented in due form to a full meeting of the Board of Managers, made a speech in the *lingua Franca* of the coast of great good sense, explaining the circumstances of his mission and the object of the King in sending him to America, which was to get law "after America fash." In due season, a simple code was prepared which he carried back to Africa, where, in good faith, the King carried it into effect, and relieved himself from the responsibility that had led to the visit.\*

On the 27th June, four months after the purchase was made, and the colonists took possession of their future home, then a wild and uncultivated spot, Dr. Hall writes, "Our real situation at this time

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\*Sim'eh Ballah was a fine specimen of his people, a well proportioned man, of much intelligence. While in Baltimore, his residence was in the Secretary's house, and during the preparation of the code, its articles were discussed in the evenings, when the messenger was invited to the parlor and held a palaver, nothing being accepted without his fully understanding and assenting to it. When the article was read declaring that no man should have more than one wife at a time, Sim'eh Ballah objected, saying that he had six, that if restricted to one he would take the youngest, when, as no one would take the others, they must starve, whereupon postponing the consideration of the particular article, the next was taken up. On the following evening, for many evenings were consumed in the discussions, Sim'eh Ballah began the palaver, by saying he had "looked his head" (reflected,) during the night, and was quite ready to adopt the article, in a qualified way, "that be good law," he said "for his pickaninny but not for him. He would say to his pickaninny "you want wife, look good you no hab two wife, good law for pickaninny, bad law for Simleh Ballah." The idea of *ex post facto* legislation was thoroughly understood by the "Kings mouth." On another occasion, during a palaver, Simleh Ballah asked, "Massa Tobe; as he called the Secretary, "God man, missionary, say, all bad men he burn, you tink so?" The good book says so, Simlah, was the reply. At this time two sons of the Secretary were in the room. Looking at them, Simlah Ballah said, "Massa Tobe, Pose your pickaninny he be bad, you burn your pickaninny, all men he be God pickaninny, God no burn his pickaninny." Whereupon, the discussion of the code was resumed, and the theological question, which is only referred to as the indication of the character of the man's mind, was not continued.



is as follows—every town lot is cleared, fenced and planted, with but one exception. I have built a large kitchen and rice house 35 feet by 15, one and a half stories high, entirely of African material, except the flooring planks and doors—a stockade fort and jail, both covered with thatched roof. I have one native house for emigrants 72 feet by 14, well floored and weather-boarded, two others of 36 feet each, which I shall take down, and altering their location and putting both in one, I shall thus be able to accommodate 150 emigrants within one month. Our colonists have twelve framed houses, and four are shingled and occupied; the others will be in one month more. Two rock houses are going up, one of which is two stories.” “Rum,” too, he writes on the 17th of August, “had again come on the carpet, and the natives were clamorous for it—but this I steadily and uniformly deny—I had rather run the risk of starvation. To succumb and yield to their unreasonable demands *I never will*, and I believe the majority of the colonists possess the virtue of obstinacy to the same extent.”

In a letter of the 26th of April, 1834, Dr. Hall writes “One thing demands the present consideration of the Board—the establishment of a coin for the Colony,” and further suggests that “it should be of silver, something like the Haytian, so much below the standard of the Spanish dollar that it should not be exported, the object being to keep a coin here for internal convenience;” and in a very clear manner Dr. Hall shows that the want of it forces every colonist to become a trader that he may be able to barter with the natives in purchases from them of the simplest necessities. In accordance with the suggestion, though with some misgivings, the Board of Managers sent to Cape Palmas in the absence of Haytian coin, or one similar to it, five hundred dollars in half dollars and smaller denominations of American silver. The result was that they learned a lesson of political economy. With nothing that the colonists could export at this early period of their political existence, the first traders that came along with goods that the emigrants wanted, carried off the silver, so that the colonists were soon as badly off as ever in this respect. Ingenuity supplied the want, and unquestionably in a very original manner. This, however was in the time of Governor Russwarm, one of Doctor Hall’s successors, in 1837. No native ever makes a purchase that he is not obliged to *dash* the bystanders—that is to say, he must make a present of part of what he buys to each of them. Thus, a native with a tusk of ivory which was already charged with the transit duties to be paid to the intervening kings on the return of the carrier to the remote sovereign to whom the tusk belonged, after having received so many yards, say of Romuals at the Cape, was obliged to tear off yard after yard as

*dashes* to the friends around. It was this custom that was made the basis of a novel currency for the natives about Cape Palmas--no less than a paper one! There was printed on strong paper the following evidence of indebtedness:

*"Baltimore, November, 1837.*

*This note will be received for five cents, at the Government Store in Harper, Maryland in Liberia, Africa, in payment for goods."*

This was signed in Baltimore by the President of the Society, and sent to Africa, where it was issued, after being countersigned by the Governor as occasion required. On this particular document was a wood-cut of a head of tobacco—a ten cent note had on it a chicken cock—a twenty-five cent note, a duck, a fifty cent note, two ducks; and a goat figured on the dollar note. The several figures were so well drawn that there could be no doubt as to their prototypes. So far from there being any difficulty in the circulation among the natives of the currency, they understood at once, that when they received it there could be no division of the piece of paper among the bystanders; and the native receiving it might choose his own time when no one was by, to present it at the government store and receive its value in goods free from the *dash* that mere barter made necessary. Not only with the natives but with the colonists themselves, did this novel currency become popular, and it continued in use until, by slow degrees, its place was supplied by a metallic coin.

The story would be a long one, were it to be attempted to enumerate all that was accomplished at Cape Palmas, during the two years of Dr. Hall's agency there. The journal of his expedition to the Falls of the Cavalla, with all the details of his intercourse with the tribes through which he passed, would, of itself, be a most interesting narrative; to which might be added the account of the negotiations which extended the possession of the Maryland State Colonization Society, east and west from Cape Palmas to the San Pedro on the one side, and to Grand Cess on the other, the result being to show what great intelligence, and great shrewdness, and indomitable energy were able to accomplish, although their possessor was far more than half the time a sufferer from disease. A single instance of what he was able to effect in the cause of humanity, will close this communication.

Under date of October 15th, 1834, Dr. Hall writes, "They have a custom here (like our forefathers of Salem) of attributing all the great calamities of life to witchcraft, particularly all sudden deaths of the middle aged and active. In such cases the Gree-gree man, doctor or Grand Devil, is consulted, and he points out the witch offending, who is compelled to drink large quantities of the decoction of a poisonous

tree called sassy wood. Should he survive, he is deemed innocent. Quite a number have been subjected to this ordeal since our settlement, who have died in excruciating agony. One of the headmen who had uniformly befriended the Colony was arraigned and found guilty of bewitching sundry members of the family of one of his rivals and doomed to the trial. He had taken his first potion before I was informed of it. It had a severe effect upon the poor fellow, though he was quite comfortable at night. But the head devil declared that he must take it on the morrow. Being informed of this, I went down, early in the morning, called a palaver and endeavored to have the man released. But all gifts, entreaties, reasoning and threatening were in vain; there seemed to be a deep grudge which nothing but his death could appease. On returning home, I was informed that there was an ancient custom, something like this. If a man was condemned to drink sassy wood, any friend of superior worth and standing could clear him by taking him by the hand when the potion was about to be administered, and take upon himself the responsibility, becoming liable either to occupy his place, or be subject to heavy damages. In this case, the King wanted to clear Popo, (the victim,) but he knew the consequence would be dangerous, so great was the excitement. Upon hearing this, I mounted my donkey and set off for the sand-beach, where I arrived just as they were driving off his wives and children who had been taking their last farewell. About four hundred people were collected and formed a hollow square, in the midst of which was the Gree-gree man in full panoply just raising a two gallon pot filled to the brim with the poisonous decoction to the lips of Popo. Poor fellow! he was so altered from his yesterday's drenching, and the dismal prospect before him, that I should not have recognized him had he been mixed with the crowd. His countenance was despair itself. I told them, that if any one had palaver for Popo, I would satisfy him according to our law, and would be responsible for all they could prove against him. Then, taking him by the hand, I marched him off amid the mingled shouts and execrations of his friends and persecutors."

So much for the letter of Dr. Hall. The facts were, that he was in his house, having left the King in despair, when the native custom, that placed the life of Popo in his hands as it were, was told him, when mounting his donkey, and with his crutches, he rode to the native town and to the brink of the hill overlooking the plain. Here he left the animal, and began the descent on foot through the bushes and rocks. Falling in his great haste, one of his crutches broke; but with the remaining one he hobbled across the interval between the hill and the square, into which he broke just in time to save the life of Popo at the imminent peril his of own.

Dr. Hall, to the very great regret of the Board of Managers, found that his health was too uncertain to enable him to perform the duties of his office as he would; and on the 10th of February 1836, he handed over the office of the Colony to Mr. Oliver Holmes, Jr. of Baltimore, who held them until the following September. By this time, the Board of Managers had become satisfied that their true policy was to make a colored man their agent; and accordingly appointed, on the recommendation of Dr. Hall, Mr. John B. Russwurm of Monrovia to the office. The wisdom of the selection not less than the policy of the Board of Managers in this regard was fully vindicated by the prudent and judicious course of this gentleman.

In conclusion, it is but just to say that from the first connection of Dr. Hall with the Maryland State Colonization Society, the preparation and fitting out of the vessel, the voyage, the purchase of territory, the establishment and management of the colony for two and one half years, the maintainance of just and politic relationship between the colonists and the barbarians around them, gradually bringing them more and more near, to the period of his resignation, there was, in the judgment of the Board of Managers, neither mistake nor failure. Untried and perplexing as were his duties he seemed to be prepared for every emergency.

Dr. Hall still lives, bright and intelligent, if wanting, at the advanced age of 83 the physical strength that he possessed when he told the native King that the colonists preferred to die with arms in their hands rather than suffer the imposition that threatened them with slow death by starvation. That Dr. Hall has lost little of the force of youthful days is sufficiently proved by his contribution to the October number of the Repository.

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*For the African Repository.*

## INTERNATIONAL EQUITY.

BY GEN. J. W. PHEI, PS.

The relation in which Liberia stands towards the United States is not the same as with other countries. It is still in a colonial condition in some respects. A large organized association of the United States possesses a reserved right with the Government of Liberia to the unoccupied lands of that Government for the joint purpose of colonization. The American Colonization Society has the right to secure to citizens of the United States who emigrate to Liberia a title to lands on Liberian soil. These lands are rendered valuable and productive by and through the agency of the Colonization Society; and the question arises whether, in equity, the United States can impose duties upon the produce of these lands.



It is evident that by the terms of the Constitution, Congress has the power to encourage commerce; and it is also evident that any obstruction thrown in the way of the Colonization Society, like that of a duty on the produce of the lands which it grants, operates against the encouragement of commerce. But not only does the agency of that Society promote commerce, it is also a benevolent Society; in fact it is a Missionary Society, and as such may claim the favor with which the law regards such societies. Its operations may claim the favorable regard of the Government by the double title of commercial utility and national benevolence.

The imposition of a tax by the United States upon the produce of Liberian lands is virtually the same as imposing a tax or clog upon the American Colonization Society. To show no equitable discrimination in favor of that Society operates like discouragement against it.

It is very far from both the spirit and the letter of the law of July 17, 1862, which makes a liberal provision for the interests of African emigration from the United States. Under that law our citizens of African descent justly claim the aid of the Government to help them on to the Liberian lands which the Colonization Society has the power to secure to them. It seems questionable to me whether the executive power of the Government is not under obligation to give some active attention to that law, if not, indeed, to secure to the Colonization Society its rights and interests in Liberian soil against foreign aggression.

An enlightened policy would impel the United States to bestow upon the Colonization Society whatever revenues might be derived from duties on Liberian products, be they more or less. The power that bestows the prospective value of Western lands upon railroad companies, ought to be equal to the bestowal of the revenue from Liberian products upon the Society that has actually created those products, and brought them into the commerce of the world.

In equity, therefore, the United States ought to exempt Liberian products from duties; or, which would amount to the same thing bestow them upon the Colonization Society. The Americo-African cannot have any interest in the lands of Alaska, for which over seven millions of dollars were paid, and he would seem entitled, therefore to some consideration in the way of lands that are possessed of value to him, and such as the Colonization Society has the power to secure. A tenth part of the Alaska purchase money, if bestowed upon the colonization interests in Liberia, would, probably, give a greater return in the way of commercial activity than all Alaska can do.

Morally speaking, we have taxed African labor enough during the last two hundred years, and may now well show it some favor.



We are not sure as to the cost of the last expedition sent by the Government to the Arctic seas, but we think that we have seen it stated at somewhere near a million of dollars. For this sum the American Colonization Society would place ten thousand colonists on lands in Liberia, the moral and commercial advantages of which, and perhaps the scientific ones also, would far transcend any which all our Arctic explorations put together have secured. There would seem to be almost a perverseness in the way that our Government and people turn away from their African colony, so grand with future hopes, and devote their attention to the profitless ices of the uninhabited North. The sending of ten thousand missionaries to the barbarous nations of Africa presents a much wider and grander field for the exercise of Christian piety than some of the objects on which wealth is lavished in the United States. As the United States is regarded as the asylum of the oppressed of Europe, so Africa will become more and more the asylum of our colored population who find themselves oppressed here.

We admit that we cannot claim much on the bare ground of positive legal right on behalf of the Colonization Society; but we urge a claim that ought to rest on an equal tenable basis with law, viz.: that of moral obligation and of duty to the future, which it is not safe to neglect.

As it was through the lowest class of men, Israelite slaves, that the highest order of ancient civilization was imparted to succeeding generations, and as when that civilization became corrupt, it was then reformed and extended to our times again by the humblest order of men, so there is no fitter instrumentality for extending that civilization to Africa than the late slaves of the United States. Any view narrower than this in dealing with the African question in its relation to the moral duties of the United States, is far from being equal to the issues of the day, or to the pretensions and real interests of the Republic. Our manufacturing interests, which are so pampered at home, would receive a more legitimate expansion by the powerful aid which we might give, through the colonization of Liberia, to the introduction of the wants and needs of civilization to the interior of Africa.

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#### MAKING A WORLD.\*

The great nations of Europe have been for thousands of years endeavoring to penetrate Africa and take possession of it, and for centuries her sons have been torn from her bosom and taken to labor

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\* Free use has been made by the writer of the admirably filled pages of the *Missionary Herald*, of Boston; *Foreign Missionary*, of New York; *African Times of London*, and *Reporter*, of Sierra Leone, in the preparation of this article.

in distant lands for the benefit of others. Yet Africa exists to-day in all its tempting freshness, and eager eyes are as earnestly turned toward her as in the days when the Carthaginians sent their trading expeditions for the precious commodity to the gold fields of the Niger. Indeed, the present progress in exploration, in opening channels of commerce and in missionary and colonization operations in that Continent was never excelled.

#### GOVERNMENTAL.

The last twelve months have been prolific in action on the part of European Powers that cannot fail to exercise considerable influence on the fortune of Africa. An intense competition for West African territory exists. The French Government is investing in it at Madagascar by bombardment, on the Ogove and on the Congo by diplomacy,—in which De Brazza has secured some fame, and on the Senegal and the headwaters of the Niger pre-occupation is the plan. The German Government has begun to move with surprising vigor in “annexation” on the West coast. In addition to Angra Pequena, the famous Cameroons has fallen a tempting prize to Teutonic energy. The policy of Germany in these seizures was expressed by Prince Bismarck in his speech in the Reichstag, June 26, as follows:

“I repeat that I have not yet given up my former dislike to colonies. I mean according to the colonial system as it was for the most part in the last century, which we may now call the French system—colonies which give land to start with to their first settlers, and which then seek to attract immigrants, appoint civil officials, establish garrisons; a kind of colonization which may suit other countries, but which is not practicable for us. Our object is not the foundation of provinces, but the protection of mercantile enterprises and their utmost expansion, of those also which obtain sovereign rights, mercantile sovereignty, which in the end owes allegiance to the German Empire.”

The extent of European possessions in Africa, beginning at Morocco and following the western margin of the Continent, may be thus stated: France claims 650 miles of the coast, Great Britain 850 miles, or if the Niger delta is included, 1,300 miles; Portugal 800 miles, and Germany 750 miles. The annexation of these three thousand miles of seaboard territory has been done under the ancient law, that

“Good old rule, that simple plan,  
Let him take who has the power,  
And let him keep who can.”

A transport has sailed with 250 workmen and their families from Lisbon and the Island of Madeira, for settlement near Mossamedes,

South Africa, which is about to be founded by the Portuguese Government. Germany, Spain, Italy, Portugal and Austria have dispatched ships of war into West African waters.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The most notable event of the year is the gathering of a Conference at Berlin, in session as we write, composed of explorers, diplomats and men of high official station, representing England, France, Germany, Austria, Russia, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Turkey and Holland, and the United States of America, called by Germany to solve the question as to the commerce of the extensive country watered by the Congo. This august body, presided over by Prince Bismarck, shows the mighty change which has taken place in the last quarter of a century concerning the possibilities of Africa as a field for trade and civilization.

The broad and almost boundless valley of the Congo, so suddenly made accessible, has moved the curiosity, the ambition and the greed of the old European nations, especially those who desire occupation for its commerce. The Conference will doubtless not only fail to sanction the Anglo-Portuguese treaty, but it will reach a judicious settlement of the momentous interests at stake, and this grand water artery will be thrown open to trade under laws which will be fair and beneficial to all peoples.

The labors of the International African Association have been carried on chiefly under the auspices and through the liberality of King Leopold of Belgium, not with a view to Belgian acquisition, but in the interest of geographical science and free commercial intercourse, and the introduction of civilization to the very heart of Africa. Therefore it is the flag of the Association, now floating over twenty-two prosperous settlements, a thousand miles of unobstructed river navigation, and a productive contiguous area of six million square miles, which the Senate and President of the United States so promptly and gladly recognized,

Stations once established, the Association found it necessary to give them stability, unity, authority and power; "to group these stations and their territories together, and form of them an independent State. \* \* \* The Association, after the example of the American Colonization Society, which founded Liberia, wishes to found the independent State of Central Africa, guardian of the freedom of the great river which it will have opened to commerce."

A country like ours, whose great want at the present day is a new market, cannot be indifferent to the opportunity thus presented, and the Government of the United States in accepting the invitation to be represented and participate at the Conference at Berlin, has estab-

lished a very important precedent. It has been our policy in the past to hold aloof from any joint action with the Powers concerning matters which may result in diplomatic alliances. But the interest of the United States in the development of African trade cannot wisely be ignored, and if by co-operating with the European Governments we can influence a just and proper control which shall give us a fair share in the work and rewards of opening up the Congo valley, the wisdom of such action is apparent.

#### EXPLORATIONS.

There has grown up with Stanley's discovery of Livingstone an individual spirit of exploration and adventure. Americans have headed achievements towards the North Pole, Europeans are busy in the heart of Africa. Mr. Joseph Thompson, who in 1878-80 conducted the Royal Geographical Society's expedition, the story of which was graphically told in his book, "*To the Central African Lakes and Back*," started in the Spring of 1882 on a tour to the Killimanjaro district, from which he has returned to London. He describes the region through which he passed to be the most interesting of any with which he is acquainted in the Continent. Between Mombassa and Victoria Nyanza the country is almost wholly volcanic. South and west of Mount Kenia is a desert. Lake Babringo exists, but it is much smaller than has been supposed. The Masai are a cattle-raising people, distinct in features and language from the Bantu stock. They resemble somewhat the Galla and Somali, but their houses, social customs, habits, religion and food are totally different from anything Mr. Thomson met elsewhere.

Mr. A. A. Anderson, an English engineer, speaks of Umzila's Kraal as situated between lofty hills, at an altitude of 3,180 feet. He says the land is fertile and the banks of the Upper Shire river are clothed in all the beauty of tropical vegetation. Mahogany, ebony and other valuable woods are plentiful, and large flocks of sheep and goats and herds of cattle are reared. The district near the headwaters of the Zambesi has been examined by Mr. F. C. Selvers, who describes it as a high, rich plateau, with many springs, the climate as salubrious and the natives as raising abundant and diversified crops.

Dr. Stecker has arrived in Europe, after visiting the bitter salt lakes of volcanic origin in the country of the Ada Gallas, the most noteworthy of which is the Sekwala lake, in Sekwala crater, about 4,000 feet above the plain, covered with mimosas. He also discovered three other lakes, Woutchi, Chole and Hawash, near the source of the river Hawash, and he ascended the two highest peaks of the Semyen, one



of them the highest point in Abyssinia and nearly as lofty as Mont Blanc. Dr. Herr Robert Flegel has returned from a two years' tour in the region of the Adamawa. He reports having discovered the sources of the Benue, and that it and its chief affluents, as for instance the Taraba, are navigable for many miles during five or six months of the year. Dr. Boehm has passed from Karama to Mpala, on his way to Lake Mareo. The Polish party established some years ago near Fernando Po to make climatological observations among the mountains, has traversed several hundred square miles of territory—as far as Bayang. The commander, Mr. S. S. Rogazinski, writes: "As results of our last travel I can note the cataract region of Mungo river, the sources and upper course of Rio del Bey, and two lakes—Mbu and N Gongo." Mr. H. E. O'Neill is reported to have reached Mozambique, after passing from lake Nyanza 1,400 miles through an unexplored region, discovering the Amurambu, which he believes to be the source of the river Punda.

Mr. H. H. Johnston has started for the mouth of the Arouimi, intending to explore it and the surroundings of the lake, newly discovered, as far as the basin of the upper Nile. Dr. Passavant is to ascend the river Cameroons, going beyond the chain of mountains which run parallel with its shore, and then to advance in an easterly direction. An expedition, organized by the Societies of Geography of Berlin, Hamburg and Gotha, is preparing to traverse the country from Loando to Zanzibar, making mineralogical and zoological collections. Lieut. Siegmund Israel and Dr. Hoepfner are to proceed to Ovampo, and from thence to penetrate the equatorial regions. The celebrated Marquis de Serpa Pinto is to lead a party for the exploration of the section between Mozambique and lake Nyassa. Mr. Eraldo Daffene, returning after a long residence in Egypt, proposes to examine Choa and Kaffa. The Italian Geographical Society grants him support. A Society for discovery in Africa has been organized at Genoa—which will join its efforts to that of Milan. The German African Society has formed an expedition, under the direction of Lieut. Schultze, to survey the southern portions of the Congo. Dr. Holub has started from Cape Colony with three wagons, one of them containing merchandise, the second provisions for the journey to the Zambesi, and the third scientific apparatus. Dr. Schweinfurth is to return to Africa on a commission from the German Academy of Sciences. In the death of Dr. Paul Pogge, at Loando, African exploration has sustained a severe loss. Dr. Pogge was doubtless on his return home when he died. It is four years since he went to Loando with Lieut. Wissmann for the purpose of penetrating the interior and exploring



the many rivered country lying between the coast and the upper waters of the Congo. Dr. Pogge parted with Lieut. Wissman at Nyangwe May 5, 1882, with the intention of returning to Mukenge, where the travelers had established their station. This he reached in September of the same year. Lieut. Wissman is on his way to still further examine the region between the course of the Congo and the West coast.

#### RAILROADS.

The railway ordered by the French Government from the Medine on the Senegal river, to Bammakoo, near the headwaters of the Niger, is in course of construction, notwithstanding the continued hostility of the natives. Three million five thousand francs have been granted by the Chambers to fulfill contracts. The Portuguese Minister of Marine has presented a bill to the Cortes authorizing the building of a railroad from Loando to Ambaca, in Angola, the Government to guarantee interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and to grant the necessary lands. Stanley recommends that a railway be built from Vivi, near the head of steam navigation on the Congo from the ocean to Stanley Pool, to avoid the rapids of the lower portion of the river. It is proposed to devote a part of the £100,000 a year which King Leopold is spending in Africa to the construction of such a railroad, which need not, it is thought, cost more than £1,200 a mile. About £14,000,000 have been expended on railways in South Africa, with advantages to commerce that cannot be estimated. There is a complete communication between lake Nyassa and the sea, except at a point where land transportation for a distance of seventy miles has been rendered necessary by the Murchison Falls. It is stated that James Stevenson, Esq., of Glasgow, has expressed his willingness to defray the expense of constructing a railway in order to facilitate transport where the rapids intercept the navigation.

The region of the Soudan from the Dessert of Sahara to the equator and from the Atlantic to the Indian ocean, has about the same number of square miles and of inhabitants as the United States. It has many clay-walled towns of from 50,000 to 100,000 population, with hundreds of others of 10,000 or more, but a few miles apart. The country is diversified with hills and prairies, is heavily timbered, and is drained by the Nile and Niger, and partly by the Congo. It has an agriculture, according to Lander and Barth, in some parts equaling the best cultivation of England. All the known grain with tropical fruits, and plants are raised, also cotton, coffee and sugar. Such a country would support railroads to carry all kinds of manufactures and implements into the interior, and bring agricultural products to pay for

the same to the coast. The United States in about the same extent of territory, and with the same population, has 121,000 miles of railroads with 20,000 miles of navigable rivers and lakes, while Soudan has not a mile of railroad or a good navigable stream. Liberia on the West coast, lies almost centreways to this rich and populous region, and a railroad—the African Continental Railway—should be commenced at an early day from Monrovia, to run eastward across the Kong mountains and into the Niger valley, ultimately to be extended on the same parallel to Lake Tchad and the Nile, to have its eastern end in Abyssinia near the mouth of the Red sea, on the Indian ocean.

#### COMMERCIAL.

Commerce has largely increased. The British Government has commissioned Mr. C. E. Gissing, consul at Mombassa, where the steamers from Aden to Zanzibar touch every two weeks. Dr. Nachtigal's mission to the West Coast of Africa is to promote "German annexation," and to collect materials for enabling the Government to establish a proper consular representation. Dr. Bachner accompanies Dr. Nachtigal at the latter's request. There has been constituted at Barcelona, under the name of the Spanish African Company, a society of commerce and navigation, whose aim is to develop the commercial relations of Spain with Africa by the establishment of factories and the running of a line of steamers, for which the Government agrees to accord a grant. A meeting has been held at Turin, at which Mr. C. C. Benci set forth the project of creating stations for Italian trade at Assab, in the Aoussa, in the Choa, and in Abyssinia. A committee was appointed to secure the means for carrying out his plans.

Mr. Robert Capper, F. R. G. S., agent for Lloyd's, in a paper read before the Society of Arts, London, April 1, gave the following opportune statements, viz :

"It is certain that Africa once had several kingdoms and states famous for arts, for wealth, for power, and for commerce. Amongst the higher and more intelligent people I met with the signs and symbols of ancient freemasonry ; many of the rulers are naturally-born gentlemen. The Continent is scored with native roads from sea to sea, over which the internal commerce is very great, a fractional part only being produced and exchanged with the civilized world. I estimated the value of the produce brought down the Niger when I went up it in 1870, at about £30,000." I believe it now exceeds £2,000,000. It took me twenty-six days to ascend that river first ; now the same distance is easily accomplished in two days. There were then only two factories, now there are fifty-seven ; there were only two trading steamers in the river ; now there are some twenty steamers, exclusive

of several iron lighters, carrying from 30 to 40 tons. One company alone has £57,000 invested in small river craft, and over a million of capital in the Niger. I passed 105 towns, some with a population of 10,000. But apart from that, the banks everywhere teemed with life. The end of my expedition was Bidda, 450 feet above the sea, where salt is better than fine gold, yielding greater happiness and luxury. In turning from the Niger to the Congo it may be right to state that Lagos, a settlement belonging to our British Crown, not twenty-five years old, has a population of 60,000, whilst Loanda, the capital of the Portuguese province of Angola, between 300 and 400 years old, has only 12,000, or is one-fifth the size. The commerce of the Congo is of recent growth. Twelve years ago there were four English houses, one French, and one Dutch, trading up the river as far as Nursuka and Noki. There are now 49 European factories on the banks, and the exports and imports are valued at £2,000,000.

“Up to within a very few years West African trade was confined to the seaboard alone, and not until the trade of the Niger and Congo was seriously entered upon has it made rapid strides; in the last five years it is said to have quadrupled in value. When I visited West Africa; there was but one screw steamer a month, and none to the South coast, the imports and exports by them in 1868 totaled about 28,000 tons. A new steamship company starting at that period, in addition to the old company, now possesses 20 steamers of an aggregate tonnage of 30,000 tons, whilst in 1882 the imports and exports by steam had grown to 200,000 tons, and in addition there are several private mercantile steamers, of a tonnage of 800 to 1,200 tons, constantly running between England and the Niger and the Congo.”

The Niger, under British protection, is now open free, to all who, care to navigate its waters.

#### GOLD.

It is believed that the development of Africa will reveal immense wealth in its “golden sands,” waiting for the science and enterprise of enlightened lands to bring it into utility. The working of the mines on the Gold Coast proceeds slowly. Commander Cameron, engineer of the West African Gold Mining Company, has introduced the hydraulic processes employed in California. The Central African Gold Exploration Company has been formed in London, with a capital of £10,000, for the purpose of prospecting and developing the mineral resources of Central Africa, more especially on the dividing range of the Molope mountains, and at the main affluents of the Congo and the Zambezi, where the precious metal has been known to exist since the fifteenth century. Gold fields have been found at De Kaap's. Trans-

vaal nuggets, one weighing thirteen pounds, are on exhibition at Pretoria. Deposits of gold have been discovered at Moodie's Reef, Transvaal, and 400 persons have gone there from the colony of Natal. The excitement had reached Port Elizabeth, and even Australia had sent experienced miners to prospect and report. Accounts from the diggers are conflicting, but the most reliable of them warn their friends to keep away, unless they have capital and are prepared to endure the greatest hardships.

#### CABLES.

The largest of the steamships specially constructed for the purpose of laying ocean cables—the Silverthorn, a vessel of nearly 5,000 tons burden—recently left London with the second section of the telegraph cable by which it is proposed to connect the English colonies on the West Coast of Africa with England and the Cape of Good Hope. She is to steam to Teneriffe, where the first section of the proposed West Coast route to the Cape Colony—the direct cable from Cadiz—at present ends. In the first place, a short cable of 200 or 300 miles, will be laid to the island of Lanzarot, another of the Canary group, and then after receiving information from the staff on board the cable ship International, now engaged in taking soundings for the work in hand, the Silverthorn will begin to pay out and lay the line to the French settlement of Dakar, in Senegal, and thence to the British settlement of Bathurst. From this port it is probable that before long a connection will be made with St. Jago, where a short line already affords communication at St. Vincent with the Eastern and Brazillian Companies' lines. Loops of the projected West African cable are to join Bathurst with Bissao and Bulama, and independently to link Bathurst with Freetown, (Sierra Leone,) and Freetown with Accra. Whether the several forts and stations of the Gold Coast Colony shall be provided with telegraphic means of intercommunication or not, the British Government do not appear to have yet decided. The selection of the port or ports at which the cable shall touch in order to supply the wants of the Congo region also remains to be made. A guarantee of traffic has been obtained from the Portuguese Government, and landing rights have been granted by the Government of the Cape, and negotiation is in progress with the Home Government with a view to obtaining support for stations at Sierra Leone and on the Gold Coast.

The Canary Islands and Senegal cable is to be laid immediately by the English steamer Dacia, thus giving direct telegraphic communication between France and her West African colony. The Portuguese Government has concluded with the Company of the submarine cable



from Cadiz to the Canaries, and from the Canaries to the Senegal, a contract for the establishment of a cable to Senegal to Bulama, St. Thomas and Loando. The Portuguese possessions in Western Africa will then be united with Europe. The Spanish Government has ratified the treaty relative to the cable from the Canaries to the Senegal.

#### LIBERIA.

Liberia was not settled by any foreign Government, but by a benevolent Society in the United States. The colonists were people whose ancestors had been carried from Africa and sold as slaves in America. They were refugees, as their Declaration of Independence expresses it, "from the most grinding oppression." They did not take back to the land of their fathers, except in a very imperfect form, the arts and sciences, the literature and religion of the land of their captivity. But, in spite of all their drawbacks, it is not to be doubted that their presence in West Africa, occupying as they do five hundred miles of coast, has extended the empire of civilization.

That the Republic should pass now and then through seasons of trouble and difficulty is only an evidence that its citizens are human beings, and that the successful exercise of the functions of government requires an amount of experience and possession of mental and moral qualities which are acquired neither in a single generation nor without such advantages as Liberia has not hitherto in any great measure enjoyed. But their attempt at independent nationality should command the sympathy and respect of every intelligent African, and, indeed, of every lover of humanity. We do not consider the progress of Liberia doubtful, nor her success as problematical. The large extent of her fertile and unoccupied lands; the variety of her natural resources; her articles, valuable in commerce, as yet untouched; forests of rubber, of gum copal, of camwood, of palm oil and palm kernels, without, in many portions, a solitary adventurer at present to offer competition; her growing fields of coffee, cocoa, and sugar cane; her accessibility to the gold fields of Nigritian countries; her vigorous and intellectual aboriginal population—Mandingoes, Veys; Golahs, Pessehs, Bassas, Kroos, and Greboes. The antecedents and past experiences of her settlers all point her out, with wise legislation, as the seat of an African nationality, which must be one of the truest and most loyal of the civilizing agencies on the coast, a helpful benefactor exemplary for justice and admirable for kindness in dealing with the aborigines, who, being of the same race as the colonists and rapidly becoming incorporated into the body politic, will offend no prejudices and disturb no self-complacency on the part of those who are striving to introduce the highest religion and a noble civilization.



The American Colonization Society first sounded the note of Africa's redemption. Sierra Leone, though the pioneer in time, has never really introduced civilization and Christianity among the aborigines, as Liberia. The colonists from Nova Scotia and the West Indies had no idea of government and were, from the very beginning, under actual martial laws, and even now the Government is strictly colonial, in which the people have no part but to obey. Such a thing as a ballot, or vote for ruler or law, is yet unknown throughout the Continent, save in Liberia. So far as civil rights are concerned, Liberia is still in advance; her light, though, is but a glimmer; "in tenebris," as her seal has it, but the true electricity is inherent, and to be kept alive by friction.

The longer the lapse of time the more important seems the grand mission of the American Colonization Society and of Liberia, and the stronger the conviction that the free Government implanted on that little section of coast line is destined to have a lasting influence on the refinement and evangelization of Africa. Although the Negro bore slavery well—made the best of it in foreign lands—yet he loves liberty as well, and knows to whom God has given that mighty Continent, and who are to rule it.

#### THE CONGO.

Henry M. Stanley has completed one of the greatest civic enterprises ever undertaken without war. He has in four years established a chain of commercial stations extending from the East to the West coast of Africa; each station, furnished with its central building, its offices and cottages, manned by working forces, provided with arms for use in extremity and managed by an agent, all under the flag of the International African Association. Such a conquest for civilization has never before been known, and it is a work whose dignity honors Stanley and the International Association of kings, princes and merchants, who have been wise enough to appreciate the opportunity of the world, and to employ the extraordinary genius of Stanley in proving it. Stanley is now in Europe, having turned over his authority on the Congo to Sir Francis Winton, recently military Secretary to the Marquis of Lorne in Canada, and is receiving the highest honors and distinction to which he is pre-eminently entitled for his unparalleled services in the cause of science and humanity.

#### THE SOUDAN.

The London Times gives the following description of the Soudan: "The name 'Soudan' bears different meanings, according as it is used by the Arabs or by the Egyptians. The former apply it to des-

ignite the interior of Africa generally, and, following them, the geographers of Europe have given this name to all the countries along the southern edge of the great Sahara from Senegambia and Sierra Leone on the West to Darfur on the East. Etymologically, Soudan means simply 'the blacks,' and is a corruption of the Arabic Balad-us-Sudan, 'the country of the blacks.' As employed, however, by the Egyptians, and as referred to in the numerous telegrams lately received from Egypt, the Soudan means not the immense tract of Africa just described, but a tract to the East of it, which comprises the countries, except Abyssinia, on both sides of the river Nile, south of the second cataract, which have during the last sixty years been formed into an Egyptian province bearing that name. This dependent province or empire—for, be it understood, the Soudan is not Egypt any more than Algeria is France—comprises much of Nubia, all Sennaar, all Kerdofan, all Darfur, and has really any length and any breadth that the Pashas can reach. A report recently made to the British Foreign Office gave its length from north to south, or from Assouan to the equator, at about 1,650 miles, but this makes it begin at the first and not at the second cataract of the Nile. Its width, on the same authority, from Massowah, on the Red sea, to the western limit of the Darfur province is from 1,200 to 1,400 miles. It probably, therefore, does not fall far short, if at all, of the dimensions of India. It is inhabited by two totally distinct races. The northern half by almost pure Arabs, most of them nomad tribes, professing some form of Mohammedanism, and the southern half by Negroes, who, though officially classed among Musselmans, are really pagans, and are roughly speaking, all sedentary and agricultural. Up to 1819 the Soudan was divided into a number of petty kingdoms and chieftaincies; but in that year Mehemet Ali, the then Khedive, sent his son Ismail to conquer the country. From that time to the present the Egyptians have gone on extending the borders of their nominal sovereignty, but have never yet managed to obtain an undisturbed footing in any part of the vast territory they claim. The seat of the provincial Government is at Khartoum, at the confluence of the Blue and White Nile, and can be reached from Cairo, from which it is some 1,500 miles distant, by the Nile, the railway stopping short at Assout, less than 300 miles from Cairo; but the quickest route is by the Red Sea from Suez to Souakim, which may be regarded as the seaport of the Soudan, and thence by a caravan route of about 280 miles to Berber, where the Nile is touched, and from that point southwards for about the same distance to Khartoum."

The importance of Khartoum is due entirely to its trade. All the native products of the heart of Africa come there in caravans and are

exchanged for European goods or money. From Khartoum they are transported by boat and caravan to Cairo and lower Egypt, Only a few years ago Gen. Gordon occupied the palace of Khartoum as Governor-general of the Soudan, and gained the good will of the entire population by his wise and humane administration. Now he is contending against the Islamic forces of North Africa.

El Mahdi, the false prophet, is described as a Negro, about forty years of age, with a tall and powerful structure, and a complexion of reddish black. His real name is Ahmed Suleiman. He was an officer under the Egyptian Government; then a slave dealer, and now a leader of men. A melancholy feature in the victorious progress of El Mahdi is the impetus which will be given to the atrocious slave trade. He will hold the upper Nile, the Eastern Soudan desert, and the countless tracks to the Red Sea shore, and his minions will bring down their slave caravans of boys and girls to be sold in Mecca to the Mohammedan pilgrims who religiously believe in the divine origin of slavery.

#### THE SLAVE TRADE.

A treaty with England was ratified July 12, by King John, by which the selling of slaves in the Abyssinian dominions is forbidden and he agrees to do away with the import and export of slaves, and also to prevent liberated slaves from being molested or reduced to slavery. The sale of slaves from family to family was forbidden, in August, in the Egyptian delta, though it continues to be legal for heads of families to retain slaves already in their possession. Dr. Laws testifies that the slave trade along the Nyassa is vigorous. He speaks of seeing a dhow with more than 100 slaves, and that he heard of a party who had ferried 500 slaves across the lake *en route* to Mozambique. It is stated that the Arabs of Zanzibar have reopened the slave trade with the West coast of Madagascar, and landed there 1000 African slaves. Whatever may be done with Khartoum and the Soudan, it is clear that the Red Sea coast will be controlled by Great Britain, and that the slave traffic must exist only for the supply of the domestic market. Dominant English influence in Egypt will suppress it there, and as for the Red Sea, that Power which once terrorized the slave-traders on the broad Atlantic will find it an easy task to demolish every Arab slave hulk that ventures to cross, with its human cargo, to the Arabian coast.

#### INTEMPERANCE.

The liquor traffic stands across the path of progress in the elevation and evangelization of the tribes. Intoxicants enough the natives already had, but their milder stimulants are being rapidly displaced

by the fiery liquids of Christian lands. From North, South, East and West proceed petitions and deputations against the evil. A correspondent says: "I hope you will do what you can to stir up your people on the importance of suppressing the liquor traffic with Africa. It is destroying its thousands." The African Lakes Company has acted as a barrier to the introduction of intoxicants. Mr. Edward S. Morris, of Philadelphia, some years ago found that strong drink was on sale at his factory in one of the Liberian towns, without his knowledge and contrary to his instructions. He promptly gave orders to have the rum and gin, in several hundred bottles, emptied into the river close by in sight of Christian and Mohammedan traders. Messrs. Yates and Porterfield, of New York, who do the largest American business along the West coast, also refuse to deal in ardent spirits.

#### ENGLISH MISSIONS.

"The Dark Continent" attracts the attention of Christendom as never before. The six British missions planted in the Central Lakes region since the death of Dr. Livingstone continue to lift up the standard of the Gospel of Light. At Uganda sixty-three natives have been baptized, and on one occasion forty received the communion. The two Scotch missions near the Nyassa are prospering, and the road to connect that lake with the Tanganyika is nearly completed. The Universities mission, headquarters at Zanzibar, is favored with workers and results. Rev. C. A. Smythies has been consecrated in St. Paul's, London, Bishop of the mission. Rev. Mr. Grenfell, of the Baptist Missionary Society, gives an encouraging account of a voyage made by himself with a party four hundred miles up the Congo, from Stanley Pool. They went in a small steamboat, carrying with them brass rods, cloth, looking-glasses and beads to purchase supplies, which latter they found generally in abundance. Mr. Grenfell describes much of the scenery as remarkably fine. Many of the sections they found very populous; some of the way they passed long lines of towns. Near Lukolela the river narrows from five miles to two. Mr. Grenfell and his companions represent that in this region there is a most favorable opening for missions.

Robert Arthington, Esq., of Leeds, desires the Baptist Missionary Society to occupy the country to be reached by the southern confluents of the Congo, and for this object he offers \$10,000, which proposition has been accepted. Mr. T. J. Sawyerr, a native merchant of Sierra Leone, has given the Church Missionary Society \$5,000 for the benefit of the native church in that colony.



"Cust's Languages of Africa" not only makes a great advance in our knowledge of life in the Continent, but it must prove a valuable helper henceforth in efforts for its opening. Mr. Cust claims to have admitted no language into the list unless he could indicate on the map from actual knowledge or reasonable presumption, the place where it is spoken. Acting on this plan, and hence excluding many tongues of which there are traces, these volumes enumerate four hundred and thirty-eight languages, besides one hundred and fifty-three dialects. Our author accepts Muller's classification of African languages, and finds these four hundred and thirty-eight languages distributed among the six families or groups as follows: Semitic, ten; Hamitic, twenty-nine; Nuba-Fulah, seventeen; Negro, one hundred ninety-five; Bantow, one hundred and sixty-eight; Hottentot--Bushman, nineteen.

African scholars are associated with such names as Krapf, Moffat, and others, as follows: "From the Niger came a language map of the basin of the Niger, and a linguistic notice from the pens of Bishop Samuel Crowther, Archdeacon Dandeson Crowther, and Archdeacon Johnson, all pure Negroes, of such a character of precision and intelligence as would cause any unprejudiced reader to lift up his hands in praise to our Heavenly Father, who in the first and second generations of liberated slaves, has permitted such evidence to be given of the intellect of the Negro race, if only it has the advantage of sympathetic culture."

Eleven schools or seminaries have been established in South Africa under the care of American ladies. Eight of these are in Cape Colony, one in the Orange Free State, and two in the Transvaal. The Huguenot Seminary is designed to be, like Mount Holyoke Seminary, a school for the whole country. The others are more local in their interests.

#### AMERICAN MISSIONS.

The French Government has issued a decree requiring that all instructions in schools, public and private, in its African possessions, shall be given in the French language. This seriously interferes with the operations of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions at the Gaboon and on the Ogoe. This mission, which is forty years old, has prepared and published grammars and vocabularies of the two languages spoken by the people, and spend many thousand dollars in efforts to civilize and evangelize the country. The Board brought the matter to the attention of our Government, and Secretary Frelinghuysen directed representations to be made to the French Government on behalf of the Board, to the end that relief might be obtained. The Board has received Secretary Frelinghuysen's reply,



which is to the effect that the French Government declines to modify the decree, but promises that inquiry shall be made as to how far it is possible to tolerate the simultaneous use with the French language of local dialects, the result of the examination to be made known hereafter.

Work at the West Central African Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions has met with an unexpected check, the missionaries at Bailunda having received peremptory orders from the King Kwikwi, to leave the country at once. The missionaries, therefore, at Bihe, with those from Bailunda, left the latter place the 4th of July, reaching the coast at Benguela in twenty-three days. Much of the distance the men were obliged to walk, and some parts of the way, the women also. This unlooked-for action on the part of the King, who till then had been exceedingly favorable, is ascribed to the influence of a Portuguese trader.

The American Baptist Missionary Union has resolved to assume January 1st, next, the work begun on the north bank of the Congo by the Livingstone Inland Mission, an independent organization of England, of which Mr. H. Grattan Guinness is the head. They intend to expend for this mission the sum of \$30,000 annually.

The Mendi Mission of the American Missionary Association has, been transferred, for five years, to the United Brethren in Christ, who have a mission adjoining it in Shengay. Operations are reported as bearing much fruit.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention have sent four missionaries to reinforce the expanding stations at Lagos and Abbeokuta. It has also a representative on a tour of observation in Kabyla and among the Berber races in Northern Africa.

#### MISSIONARY BISHOPS.

Rev. Samuel D. Ferguson, elected April 24, by the House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church missionary Bishop of Cape Palmas and parts adjacent, was born in Charleston, S. C., and removed when a child, with his parents to Liberia under the auspices of the American Colonization Society. He was educated in the mission schools, and since 1868 has had charge of St. Mark's parish, Cape Palmas. Mr. Ferguson is 42 years of age, and marks a "new departure" in that he is the first colored man elevated to the office of bishop of the American Episcopal Church in Africa.

Rev. William Taylor, ordained at the May session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church as missionary Bishop of Africa, is expecting to preside at the Liberia Annual Conference, which is to meet at Monrovia, January 29, next. His plan is then to

plant about twenty mission stations on a line running through a belt of country which lies just south of the Congo river, and stretches from the Atlantic to the Indian oceans. In this enterprise forty missionaries are needed to begin the work. Of this number about thirty have been secured. Bishop Taylor himself intends to enter from the Atlantic coast, with twenty missionaries, and Dr. Summers will penetrate from the Indian ocean with twenty more missionaries. Both parties will advance toward the interior until they meet, thus completing the chain of mission stations across Africa. The movement, though in harmony with, will be independent of the Methodist Episcopal Missionary Society, the missionaries supplying their needs from the resources of the country and the gifts of the aborigines.

#### DUTY.

Many thousands of the colored population of the United States have an earnest feeling for the uplifting of themselves and of Africa. Speaking for himself and his people, the writer of the following communication deserves an impartial hearing: "Africa seems to stand out in bold relief and beckon the colored youth of America to its prolific shores as a grand field for the development of all the nobler faculties of the soul, heart and brain. America is the white man's country, and he boasts of it as such, dwelling with pride and enthusiasm upon its primitive state, rapid growth and its ultimate development, reared in two or three hundred years from an almost impenetrable wilderness to one of the most populous and powerful countries on the globe, the natural outgrowth of industry, perseverance and enterprise. Now Africa is the black man's country; God made it for him and made him for it, endowing him naturally with the necessary physical properties to secure his health there, schooling and training him first in the stern academy of American slavery, and ultimately in its grand academies for development in literature and the arts and sciences. So there is nothing in the way. Our young men are yearly becoming painfully conscious of the proper sphere for the exercise of true liberty and manhood, as set forth in the constitution of the United States. They are becoming thirsty, they are basking on the banks of the cool clear stream of freedom; its presence augments and aggravates their thirst; they see others, more favored than themselves, drinking long and deep; see in their countenances and hear in their conversation the effects of the exhilarating liquid. They are advised by the sages and wise men to fight, contend, hold conventions and deliver harangues, offer indignant resolutions, &c., and by the more serious they are instructed to wait and practice patience. They

take all this advice and instruction, and in endeavoring to follow it find new difficulties arise and new barriers present themselves. All this has a tendency to discourage a young man. His hopes are soon blasted and his aspirations are nipped in the bud; he becomes despondent, at last despairs and falls, and when he falls, he falls like Lucifer never to use again.

"A colored youth emulous, aspiring, energetic and enterprising, upon reaching the shores of Africa, finds himself in an unlimited field of action for good. The very situation arouses the dormant and latent characteristics of his disposition. His every effort meets with encouragement, and he sees ultimate success waiting in the near future, with an appropriate wreath or crown as a reward for his perseverance; nothing there to battle with in the shape of race prejudice. If he is good and noble, there is not sufficient counteracting influence to warp, dwarf or vitiate his nature in Africa; nothing there to hinder him from rearing just such or a much better republic than even the United States, and speaking of it with as much pride as a black man's country as the white man of the present day speaks of this as a white man's country.

"So, in our humble opinion, our duty toward Africa implies fitting and preparing ourselves or others who are ready and willing to go, for developing and evangelizing that wonderful Continent."

#### THE FUTURE.

All the world is now aiming at the new market which Africa offers for the overplus of manufactures. Liberia is an opening into his, which it seems the United States should not be indifferent to. The day is not far distant when will be seen Africa's vast and mighty populations vitally linked to the progressive nations of the West and marching to the step of the best civilization and the purest religion of the globe.

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#### OUR FALL EXPEDITION.

The bark "Monrovia" sailed from New York, October 1st, with forty-seven emigrants sent by the American Colonization Society, accompanied by their baggage and outfit, and the customary supplies for their settlement in Liberia. Three are young men, natives of Africa, who were brought to this country eleven years ago, and have since been studying at Lincoln University, Chester county, Pa. They came here ignorant heathens: they return enlightened Christians. It is their intention to teach school at Monrovia. All the others are to join kinsmen and acquaintances at Brewerville, at whose instance they emigrated.

Three are from Chester county, Pa., 17 from Kansas City, Missouri, 4 from Wyandotte, and 16 from Topeka, Kansas, and 7 from Lincoln, Nebraska. Twenty-nine are twelve years old and upwards, 14 are between 12 and 2 years, and 4 are under 2 years of age. Twenty-three are communicants in Evangelical churches. Of the adult males, 6 are farmers, 3 are school-teachers, and 1, each, a blacksmith, stone-mason, plasterer and minister of the Gospel.

The company is largely composed of experienced, self-reliant persons, in families, nearly all being a part of the "exodus" of some four years ago from the Southern to the Western States—now seeking homes and true liberty in the land of their ancestors. Several citizens of Liberia returned on the "Monrovia;" also, Rev. William H. Fair and wife (white), missionaries of the P. Episcopal Church, this being their fourth voyage to that Republic.

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#### HISTORY OF LIBERIA.

We trust our friends have read Dr. Hall's paper on Cape Palmas in the October Repository, and that they will not fail to peruse Mr. Latrobe's article on the same subject in the present number. The history of the settlement of Cape Palmas is remarkable and its delineation by octogenarian hands is no less remarkable. The facts are clearly presented and the dates admirably marshalled.

The narrative of the founding and growth of Liberia, prepared by competent hands, would be as interesting as a popular novel, and exhibit to the world the results thus far achieved of a Christian enterprise of magnificent purpose and the highest promise. The prophecy with which Dr. Hall closes his interesting "notice of the semi-Centennial celebration of the founding of Cape Palmas," is by no means too sanguine. Events now transpiring more than justify the prediction.

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#### WILL RETURN TO LIBERIA.

Last Friday, William Slatter arrived in Winchester, Tenn., direct from Monrovia, Africa. He was 35 days in crossing the sea that lies between Monrovia and New York—a distance of about 4,000 miles. We have published several letters from "Uncle Billy" during the past several years. He left the United States for Liberia on the 14th day of November, 1869, and has resided there ever since. He had license to preach the Gospel, which he did in Liberia as often as circumstances would allow, devoting most of his time to blacksmith-

ing. He is one of the best smiths and many people in Tennessee know that he is. He is a natural genius, and we affirm that he is one of the most honest men, white or black, we ever knew. He was brought up under the ownership and admonition of David R. Slatter, grandfather of the writer, and a devoted member of the Methodist E. Church. He lastly belonged to Esq. John T. Slatter, of Winchester, and the friendship that existed between them was remarkable.

"Uncle Billy" has preserved untarnished his reputation for honesty and industry, as can be seen by any quantity of documents in his possession. Nor has he ever been puffed up or tainted by praise.

He brought us many curiosities from Africa, and all that he told us of that country tallies exactly with what we have read in the publications made by Dr. Livingstone, Mr. Stanley, and others.

We most heartily welcome "Uncle Billy," and he has a home with us as long as we have a home. He expects to return to Liberia  
*Home Journal, Sept. 10, 1884.*

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#### LETTER FROM HON. BENJAMIN ANDERSON.

*Monrovia, July 9, 1884.*

DEAR SIR; I have just returned from surveying the lands allotted to the late immigrants at Brewerville. This settlement, three miles in the rear of Virginia, is by its situation and growth, leading itself rapidly towards the interior. Some of the roads are already beyond Vonswah. Its size and the pushing steps it is making inland, have given rise to jealousies and a crying out against any further extension in that direction, but if it continues to move on, it will be, truly, an *interior settlement* for all purposes whatsoever pertaining to interior work. Its influence and efficacy in this particular cannot be overrated.

The settlement of the San Pedro certainly claims the instant action of the Government, unless we would lose it by non-occupation, as we have already done in the matter of our North-Western boundary. But when we shall have made sure of that point, we should at once set about promoting a good understanding—and even establish ourselves as near the head of that river as possible. Its sources, we learn, is deeply seated into the bosom of the Continent.

Our best interests all gravitate interiorwards—where, indeed, we can alone exist, and where we can effectually defend ourselves against all comers. It is possible to break into us at points all along our zig-zag and trending coast line; but that is the farthest verge inva-



sion can go. Follow us in *home* and there is an end to all intrusion; for besides what can be resisted, nature herself forbids any considerable advance.

It is the wish of the progressive part of the community that the Government should be equally alive to the interior development as well as endeavor to maintain the integrity of our coast line; and we are heartily glad to have men in the management of our affairs, who can, by their zeal, their devotion and their ability, accomplish the first object, if the latter is not in every respect possible.

The manifest destiny of Liberia is eastward, and the elevation of the aboriginal population. Let not our friends in America be discouraged. There are moral agencies and the laws of nature that will remove every obstacle. Very Respectfully,

BENJ. ANDERSON.

THE STEAMER *PEACE*, sent by the English Baptists for the use of the Mission on the upper Congo, has been launched at Stanley Pool. The eight hundred pieces of which it consisted were safely transported the whole distance and accurately put together.

## COURAGE, SOLDIERS!

BY REV. JOSEPH FORD SUTTON, D. D.

Hark, the tread of coming millions  
Marching on—the hosts of God;  
Coming from the isles and nations,  
Ransomed by the Saviour's blood.

Hear them shouting!  
“He hath washed us in his blood!”

God His promise is fulfilling  
To His well-beloved Son;  
Heathen nations to Him giving,  
For a heritage, His own.  
See them coming!  
All to worship at His throne.

Christ is seeing of the travail  
Of His loving, waiting soul,  
In the triumphs of the Gospel  
Over men, from pole to pole.  
Hear their praises!  
Like the voice of waters, roll.

Soldiers of the Cross, long waiting  
For the coming of this day—  
Toiling, weeping, watching, praying—  
Courage take and march away!  
“We have triumphed!”  
Soon you'll hear our Captain say.

## ROLL OF EMIGRANTS FOR LIBERIA.

By Bark *Monrovia*, from New York, October 1, 1884.

| No.                                              | NAME.                | AGE. | OCCUPATION.  | RELIGION.     |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------|--------------|---------------|
| <i>From Lincoln University, Chester Co., Pa.</i> |                      |      |              |               |
| 1                                                | James W. Wilson..... | 22   | Teacher..... | Presbyterian. |
| 2                                                | Alonzo Miller.....   | 22   | Teacher..... | Presbyterian. |
| 3                                                | Robert D. King.....  | 22   | Teacher..... | Presbyterian. |

*From Kansas City, Missouri.*

|    |                       |    |             |              |
|----|-----------------------|----|-------------|--------------|
| 4  | Alexander Rice.....   | 43 | Farmer..... | Baptist..... |
| 5  | Elmira Harris.....    | 35 |             | Baptist..... |
| 6  | Edmund R. Harris..... | 13 |             |              |
| 7  | Wesley Harris.....    | 11 |             |              |
| 8  | Albert Harris.....    | 9  |             |              |
| 9  | Travers Harris.....   | 7  |             |              |
| 10 | Nora J. Harris.....   | 5  |             |              |
| 11 | Mary Ann Carter.....  | 46 |             | Baptist..    |
| 12 | William Mills.....    | 44 | Farmer..... |              |
| 13 | Priscilla Mills.....  | 28 |             | Baptist..... |
| 14 | Green Mills.....      | 9  |             |              |
| 15 | Rebecca Mills.....    | 5  |             |              |
| 16 | Caroline Mills.....   | 3  |             |              |
| 17 | William Mills.....    | 1  |             |              |
| 18 | Jackson Polk.....     | 51 | Farmer..... | Baptist..... |
| 19 | Elvira Polk.....      | 47 |             | Baptist..... |
| 20 | Samuel Moore.....     | 45 | Farmer..... |              |

*From Wyandotte, Kansas.*

|    |                         |    |             |             |
|----|-------------------------|----|-------------|-------------|
| 21 | Casper Crawford.....    | 42 | Farmer..... | Methodist.. |
| 21 | Annie Crawford.....     | 22 |             | Methodist.. |
| 23 | Angustine Crawford..... | 3  |             |             |
| 24 | Lewis Crawford.....     | 1  |             |             |

*From Topeka, Kansas.*

|    |                      |    |              |              |
|----|----------------------|----|--------------|--------------|
| 25 | James Nunn.....      | 51 | Blacksmith.. | Baptist..... |
| 26 | Fanny Nunn.....      | 39 |              | Baptist..... |
| 27 | Rebecca Nunn.....    | 17 |              | Baptist..... |
| 28 | Alexander Nunn.....  | 15 |              |              |
| 29 | William Nunn.....    | 13 |              |              |
| 30 | Mary Nunn.....       | 11 |              |              |
| 31 | Lizzie Nunn.....     | 5  |              |              |
| 32 | Horace Nunn.....     | 1  |              |              |
| 33 | John W. Daniels..... | 50 | Stone-Mason  | Baptist..... |
| 34 | Melinda Daniels..... | 38 |              | Baptist..... |
| 35 | Mary Daniels.....    | 17 |              | Baptist..... |
| 36 | Frank Daniels.....   | 16 |              |              |
| 37 | Arthur Daniels.....  | 6  |              |              |
| 38 | William Fuller.....  | 53 | Farmer.....  | Baptist..... |
| 39 | Hettie Fuller.....   | 44 |              | Baptist..... |
| 40 | George Fuller.....   | 12 |              |              |

*From Lincoln, Nebraska.*

|    |                     |    |               |              |
|----|---------------------|----|---------------|--------------|
| 41 | Charles Knox.....   | 36 | Plasterer.... | Baptist..... |
| 42 | Salina Knox.....    | 30 |               | Baptist..... |
| 43 | Maria B. Knox.....  | 11 |               |              |
| 44 | Robert G. Knox..... | 4  |               |              |
| 45 | Lewis L. Knox.....  | 1  |               |              |
| 46 | Martin Hall.....    | 60 | Minister..... | Baptist..... |
| 47 | Clarissa Hall.....  | 51 |               | Baptist..... |

NOTE.—The foregoing named persons make a total of 15,816 emigrants settled in Liberia by the AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

## THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The Sixty-Eighth Anniversary of the AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY will take place in Calvary Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., on Sunday evening, January 18, 1885, at 7.30 o'clock, when the Annual Discourse will be delivered by Rev. J. C. Thomas, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y..

The Annual Meeting of the Society for the election of officers and transaction of business, will be held at the Colonization Building, No. 450 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C., on the next succeeding Tuesday, January 20, at 3 o'clock P. M.

The Board of Directors of the AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY will begin their annual session at the same place and on the same day at 12 o'clock M.

## RECEIPTS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

During the Month of September, 1884.

|                                         |         |                                     |           |
|-----------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| NEW JERSEY. (\$50.00.)                  |         | Liberia, by Dr. John J. Turner....  | 35 00     |
| <i>Haddonfield.</i> Samuel Nicholson..  | 50 00   | FOR REPOSITORY. (\$2.00.)           |           |
| MARYLAND. (\$1000.00.)                  |         | <i>Texas.</i> \$1. Liberia \$1..... | 2 00      |
| <i>Baltimore.</i> Mrs. Henry Patterson, |         | RECAPITULATION.                     |           |
| "gift appropriated by her during        |         | Donations.....                      | 1050 00   |
| her life time," by William Patter-      |         | Emigrant toward passage.....        | 35 00     |
| son, Esq.....                           | 1000 00 | For African Repository.....         | 2 00      |
| NEBRASKA. (\$35.00.)                    |         | Rent of Colonization Building....   | 146 00    |
| <i>Lincoln.</i> Charles Knox, toward    |         | For support of schools in Liberia.  | 90 00     |
| cost of emigrant passage to Li-         |         | Total Receipts in September.        | \$1323 00 |

During the Month of October, 1884.

|                                  |          |                                     |           |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| MASSACHUSETTS. (\$100.00)        |          | & Rec. Sec. for the passage         |           |
| <i>Boston.</i> Legacy of Hon. G. |          | and settlement of emigrants,        | 2500 00   |
| Washington Warren, by....        |          | F. G. Schultz Esq.....              | 25 00     |
| Messrs Lucian H. Warren &        |          | FOR REPOSITORY. (\$2.00)            |           |
| Henry Walker, Ex'rs,.....        | \$100 00 | Virginia \$1. Indian Territory \$1. | 2 00      |
| NEW YORK. (\$200.00)             |          | RECAPITULATION.                     |           |
| <i>Kingston.</i> From Members of |          | Donations.....                      | 2725 00   |
| the Reformed Church....          | 100 00   | Legacy.....                         | 100 00    |
| <i>New York City.</i> Messrs.    |          | For African Repository.....         | 2 00      |
| Yates & Porterfield. . . .       | 100 00   | Rent of Colonization Building.      | 62 00     |
| PENNSYLVANIA. (\$2525.00)        |          | Total Receipts in October,          | \$2889 00 |
| <i>Philadelphia</i> Pennsylvania |          |                                     |           |
| Colonization Society, Rev.       |          |                                     |           |
| Dr. Edward W. Syle, Cor.         |          |                                     |           |

During the month of November, 1884.

|                                         |       |                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| ILLINOIS. (\$30.00.)                    |       | RECAPITULATION.                   |          |
| <i>Jacksonville.</i> Rev. James C. Fin- |       | Donations.....                    | 30 00    |
| ley, \$10, James F. Keeney \$10.        | 20 00 | Rent of Colonization Building.... | 264 00   |
| <i>Carbondale.</i> Miss E. C. Finley..  | 10 00 | Total Receipts in November.       | \$294 00 |



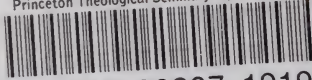




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